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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : :

GUY SERRE ET AL. : :

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN. : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH
(Based on PCT/FR00/01857)

FILED: HEREWITH : :

FOR: FIBRIN CITRULLINE DERIVATIVES
AND THEIR USE FOR DIAGNOSING
OR TREATING RHEUMATOID
ARTHRITIS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up following this amendment to read as follows.

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3. (Amended) The citrullinated polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, wherein said vertebrate fibrin is a mammalian fibrin, preferably a human fibrin.
4. (Amended) The use of a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, for diagnosing rheumatoid arthritis, *in vitro*.